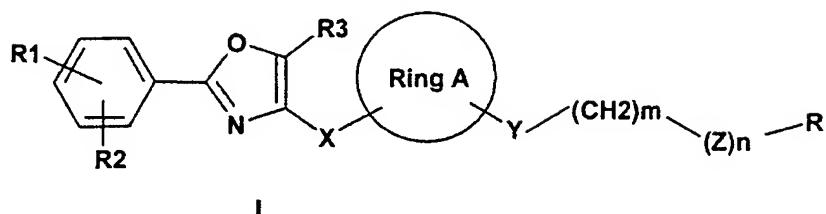


We claim:

5 1. A compound of the formula I



wherein

10 ring A is (C₃-C₈)-cycloalkanediyl or (C₃-C₈)-cycloalkenediyl, wherein one or more carbon atoms in said (C₃-C₈)-cycloalkanediyl and (C₃-C₈)-cycloalkenediyl groups are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

15 R1, R2 are each independently H, F, Br, Cl, SF₅, S-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, CF₃, OCF₃, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl, O-(C₁-C₆)-alkyl, SCF₃, phenoxy, OCF₂CHF₂, OCF₂CF₃, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, O(C₁-C₆)-alkyl-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy or benzyloxy;

20 R3 is H, CF_3 , ($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$)-alkyl, ($\text{C}_3\text{-C}_8$)-cycloalkyl or phenyl:

X is (C₁-C₆)-alkanediyi, wherein one or more carbon atoms therein are optionally replaced by oxygen atoms;

25 Y is S, O or a bond:

m is 1, 2 or 3;

30. n is 0 or 1.

Z is O, S, CO or CO-NH.

R is H, OH, $\text{CH}_2\text{-CO-NH-OH}$, $\text{CH}_2\text{-CO-NH-(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{)-alkyl}$, $\text{CH}_2\text{-CO-NH-(C}_1\text{-C}_6\text{)-alkoxy}$, NR4R5 or a 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11- or 12-membered mono or bicyclic ring that is unsaturated, partially unsaturated or saturated, and optionally contains one to four heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, and wherein said 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, 10-, 11- or 12-membered mono or bicyclic ring is optionally benzo-fused, and optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, CN, SH, COOH, (C₁C₄)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, SO₂-(C₁-C₄)-alkyl, NO₂, CF₃, OCF₃, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-phenyl, phenoxy, NHSO₂CF₃ or B(OH)₂;

R4 is H or (C₁-C₆)-alkyl;

15 R5 is OH, NH₂, SO₂-CF₃, SO₂-phenyl-CF₃, CO-CF₃, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy or phenyl optionally substituted by CH₃ or COOH; or

20 R4 and R5, taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 5-membered aromatic heterocycle which is optionally fused to an aromatic 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring, said aromatic 5-, 6-, or 7-membered ring optionally having one, two, three or four nitrogen atoms, and optionally substituted by F, Cl, Br, CF₃, OCF₃, COOH, SO₂CH₃, CN, (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl-phenyl, (C₁-C₆)-alkyl-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-(C₁-C₆)-alkoxy, (C₁-C₆)-alkoxy-phenyl or phenoxy;

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and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

30 2. The compound of Claim 1 wherein:

ring A is (C₃-C₈)-cycloalkanediyl, wherein one carbon atom is optionally replaced by an oxygen atom, and

35 X is (C₁-C₆)-alkanediyl, wherein one carbon atom is optionally replaced by an oxygen atom.

3. The compound of Claim 2 wherein:

ring A is cyclohexane-1,3-diyI; and

5 X is CH₂-O.

4. The compound of Claim 3 wherein:

ring A is cyclohexane-1,3-diyI;

10 X is CH₂-O; and

Y is O.

15 5. The compound of Claim 4 wherein the central cycloalkane-1,3-diyI ring is attached cis.

6. The compound of Claim 5 wherein:

20 R1/R2 are each independently H, (C₁-C₄)-alkyl or (C₁-C₄)-alkoxy; and

R3 is (C₁-C₄)-alkyl.

7. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

25 Y is O;

m is 3; and

30 n is 0.

8. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

35 Y is O;

m is 2; and

n is 0.

9. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

5 Y is O;

m is 2;

n is 1; and

10 Z is O.

10. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

15 Y is O;

m is 1; and

n is 0.

20 11. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

Y is a bond;

25 m is 1; and

n is 0.

12. The compound of Claim 6 wherein:

30 Y is a bond;

m is 1;

35 n is 1; and

Z is O.

13. The compound of Claim 7 wherein:

Y is O;

5 m is 3;

n is 0; and

R is tetrazole or NHSO_2CF_3 .

10 14. The compound of Claim 8 wherein:

Y is O;

15 m is 2;

n is 0; and

R is tetrazole, NHSO_2CF_3 or NR_4R_5 denoting indole or 6-azaindole and wherein said indole and 6-azaindole groups are 20 optionally substituted by F, Br, CN, COOH, (C_1C_4)-alkyl, ($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$)-alkoxy, $\text{SO}_2\text{-CH}_3$, ($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$)-alkoxy-($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$)-alkoxy or benzoxy.

15. The compound of Claim 9 wherein:

25 Y is O;

m is 2;

30 n is 1;

Z is O; and

35 R is phenyl or thiophene, each of which is optionally substituted by F, COOH, ($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$)-alkyl, ($\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$)-alkoxy, NO_2 , CF_3 , benzyloxy or $\text{B}(\text{OH})_2$.

16. The compound of Claim 10 wherein:

Y is O;

5 m is 1;

n is 0; and

R is phenyl optionally substituted with NHSO_2CF_3 or $\text{B}(\text{OH})_2$.

10 17. The compound of Claim 11 wherein:

Y is a bond;

15 m is 1;

n is 0; and

R is NR_4R_5 denoting pyrrole or indole, both of which are substituted by COOH.

20 18. The compound of Claim 12 wherein:

Y is a bond;

25 m is 1;

n is 1;

Z is O; and

30 R is thiophene or benzothiophene, each of which is optionally substituted by COOH, Cl or CF_3 .

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and one or more compounds of Claim 1.

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20. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 19 further comprising at least one additional active ingredient.

21. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 20 wherein said additional 5 active ingredient has favorable effects on metabolic disturbances or disorders.

22. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 20 wherein said additional active ingredient is an antidiabetic.

10 23. The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 20 wherein said additional active ingredient is a lipid modulator.

24. A method of treating disorders of fatty acid metabolism and glucose 15 utilization comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

25. A method of treating disorders of insulin resistance comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount 20 of a compound of Claim 1.

26. A method of treating diabetes mellitus including the prevention of the sequelae associated therewith comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

25 27. A method of treating dyslipidemia and sequelae associated therewith comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

30 28. A method of treating metabolic syndrome and conditions associated therewith comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

29. A method of treating disorders of fatty acid metabolism and glucose utilization comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with at least one further active compound.

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30. A method of treating disorders of insulin resistance comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1 in combination with at least one further active compound.

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